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HON. J. C. NAPIER WRITES ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

What are we as Negroes to gain by deserting the Republican party and voting for Patterson against Tillman? In the first place, how can any self-respecting Negro vote for Gov. Patterson when he and party will not even recognize our right to have any voice in his party. No one but a white man is permitted to vote in their primaries or take part in their conventions.

If the colored man deserts the Republican party, where will he go? Are not those who are urging him to this course, leading him up to political destruction? If the Republican party must give him up and be forced by him to become also a white man's party, who is going to stand up against the efforts of the Democratic party to disfranchise him and rob him of his political rights?

Do not Democrats boldly declare that the right to vote should be taken from him, and have not the ablest Democratic statesmen, editors and lawyers written and spoken in favor of such a policy?

What has Gov. Patterson done to merit his support? The Governor's friends claim that he has not discriminated against colored convicts in issuing pardons. This is not true and is not borne out by the facts in the case, for out of 1,200 Negroes, he pardoned only 75; while out of about 600 whites, he has pardoned over 400. Does this have the appearance of impartiality? They have made this pardon business a great catch penny for colored voters, but not once have any of them undertaken to draw the Governor out on the subject of disfranchisement, or Jim Crowism, or larger educational facilities for colored children.

Was it any mercy to turn out of the penitentiary thirty or forty poor Negroes with legs and backs broken, and some dying of consumption? Would it not be better, as insisted by Mr. Tillman, to take care of these poor fellows in good hospitals instead of unloading them on their poor kin, especially when all these disabilities were incurred in the service of the State?

All this attack on Mr. Tillman by some of our colored newspapers is unjust, and founded in a misconception of the facts. He has always written and spoken in behalf of the colored man—and that, too, when he was no candidate for office. And he expects and will receive the support of those who truly see what is good for the race.

Four years ago, when he had no other motive than serve the race, he spoke out in a meeting of distinguished Democrats in the following brave, bold plea—which was published in the newspapers at the time. He was no candidate then. Here is what he said:

"The Negro may, by various methods by indirection, by violence or fraud, by applying tests to him not applied to whites, be deprived of the ballot for a few years, or a generation, but in the long run, such methods will fail; if the Negro shall progress in moral and intelligent qualities, in industry and thrift, in accumulation of property, and all the elements of civilization and this leads to the conclusion that the chief thing for the Negro to do now, is to bend all of his energies to the acquirement of education, mainly industrial, to discipline, to the development of the faculties of prov-

idence, thrift, industry and higher morality—thus laying the foundation for the permanent uplifting of the race to a state where its participation in government will not meet with the opposition that now confronts it. It is believed by some that the Negro ought not to possess the privilege of voting; that the association with the whites that necessarily results from the exercise of political and civil rights will gradually break down the partition that separates the races socially. I do not think so. But whatever may be one's view of this, it may be considered a closed question. The guarantees in the Federal Constitution of their political and civil rights will never be abrogated. The South must solve its problem with this as an accepted fact. The Negro, so far as the written law is concerned, has had in Tennessee for over thirty years the same political and civil rights as the white man—and there are no indications of any disturbances of our social life in its private relations.

Now, as man who has arrived at the age of sound discretion, looking beyond the present day, having in mind the destiny and well being of our people, I appeal to them to stand by those who have always stood by us for equal civil and political rights. Let us not sell the birthright of ourselves and of our children for a mess of pottage.

It is gratifying to learn as I have gone from place to place in the State that the quiet and stealthy efforts of the Democracy to win the Negro have been of no avail. I say "quiet and stealthy efforts" because even the Negro Democratic orators and campaigners are not permitted to make public speeches in their efforts to win Negro votes. After all, it is clearly evident that the colored vote will, as a whole, be cast as usual for the best interests of the country, of the race, and of the party which has always stood for these things. And in this, I believe him to be right for what is to be gained by allying ourselves with a party which does not even openly ask for our votes?

If the next legislature should submit a constitutional amendment to the people of this State proposing to disfranchise the colored people as has been done in almost all other Southern States, Governor Patterson would at once approve the proposition as he approved a resolution endorsing the dismissal of the colored soldiers on account of the Brownsville incident. In such event, what would Mr. Tillman do if he were Governor? Undoubtedly he would promptly veto any such measure.

In Nashville and in Davidson County we constitute one-third of the population. We are law-abiding. We pay taxes. We conform to all the requirements of a Christian and an advancing civilization. With all this under Democratic rule we are deprived of representation and are utterly without a voice or influence in the administration of the affairs of the governments which we support and under which we live. Will any of the colored gentlemen who are advocating Governor Patterson's cause say that they are satisfied with this condition of things? Or will they say that he and his party are responsible for them? Those of us who are supporting the Taft and Tillman ticket are not satisfied and hope for an early change which we think we see in the near future. *

J. C. NAPIER.

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MARRIAGES.

George Fambrough and Annie Anderson.
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DEATHS.

Anna Officer, 834 Division street, 47 years.
Infant of Wilburn and Henrietta Woods, 314 Third avenue, South.
Dollie Anderson, 12 Garden street, 70 years.
Mary Still, Nolensville pike, 22 years.
Alline McLain, 616 Peabody street, 77 years.
Bessie Rideout, 118 Fairfield avenue, 16 years.
Mary Edmondson, 16 Murrell street, 32 years.
Sickles Smith, 130 Fifth street, North, 27 years.
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Wm. Mack Shute, 23 Short street, 3 days.
George Malone, 1022 Fourth avenue, North, 2 years.
Allen J. Bullock, 420 Twelfth avenue, North, 61 years.
Fannie Hamilton, 1409 Fourteenth avenue, South, 39 years.
Joseph Smith, 505 Second avenue, North, 40 years.
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Tennessee Linsley, 2 1-2 miles Whites Creek pike, 19 years.
Victoria Harding, 8 miles Murfreesboro pike, 18 years.
Hattie May Brown, Springhead and Webster street, 2 months.
John Burns, Flat Rock, 70 years.
Mettie Louise Shute, 9 miles Stones River pike, 9 days.
Harriet Harris, 6 miles, 78 years.
Minnie Simmons, 1425 Eighth avenue, North, 46 years.
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Abe Greep, 224 First street, 56 years.
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Jas. Cheatham, 507 Larkin street.
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Millie Chapel, 49 years, 610 Ramsey street.
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"NEGRO DOLLS." SAYS AN ILLINOIS WOMAN.

The Illinois Federation of Women Endorse the Idea in Annual Convention.

Springfield, Ill.—As a part of the proceedings of the annual convention of the Illinois Federation of Women, which only recently closed its session at Bloomington, they voted unanimously to a woman to adopt the Negro dolls for the coming holidays. It was the sense of this gathering that in the homes of their Negro women where there was a girl child they would purchase a Negro doll. Mrs. Anna Peyton is the president of the Federation and presided through the entire session. The movement is in charge of Mrs. Rosa Hunter, of Springfield. One of the leading spirits in this movement was Mrs. Bennett, of DuQuoin, Ill., whose husband was also prominent in pressing the resolution that passed the National Baptist Convention at Lexington. The Springfield club has already begun to secure the dolls for Springfield. The club wants the dolls for the coming holidays. They are to be on exhibition in the winter bazaars and church fairs. Mrs. Eva Monroe, founder of the Lincoln Colored Home, will no doubt be placed in charge of the dolls for the holidays. Springfield feels that she has a right to push forward in this matter, and lead in this new race pride and race interest, since the recent disturbance here. The Federation has allied clubs in nearly every city in Illinois and some of the largest clubs in the State are to be found in Springfield, Cairo, Du Quoin, Alton, Bloomington, Chicago and Evansville.

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THE LILAC EMBROIDERY CLUB.

The Lilac Embroidery Club met at the residence of Mrs. Heck Cary, 1015 South street, Monday, October 26. After all business had been finished the ladies spent one hour with their needle-work, after which they were invited into the dining-room, where a three-course menu was served with fruits and ices. Mrs. Cary was assisted in entertaining her guests by Mesdames J. L. Watkins and Jno. Barnes. Those present were Mesdames P. A. Washington, L. E. Moore, J. L. Watkins, Jno. Jennings, E. Simms, Jno. Haley, H. Crockett, W. S. Amos, Matt Johnson, M. Williams, A.

Whittaker, W. C. Sheffield, Heck Carney, W. H. Mosley.

The club will have its next meeting at the home of Mrs. Simms, 1518 Phillips street.

RETURNED TO ALEXANDER CHAPEL.

Rev. J. H. Thompson, after several years' stay in Hartsville visiting his mother, Mrs. Lucinda Thompson, has returned to Mason to take up his work at Alexander M. E. Chapel, where he pastored last year. He performed such excellent service that the annual conference sent him to the same charge for another year.